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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 19

FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

Mr. Bossuyt, Ms. Chavez, Mr. Eide, Mr. El-Hajjé, Mrs. Forero Ucros, Mr. Guissé, Mrs. Gwanmesia, Mr. Hatano, Ms. Palley, Mr. Ramadhane, Ms. Warzazi and Mr. Yimer: draft resolution

1994/... The right to freedom of movement

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,

Reaffirming the right of everyone lawfully within the territory of a State to liberty of movement and freedom to choose his residence, and the prohibition of arbitrary deprivation of the right to enter one's own country as set out in article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recognizing that practices of forcible exile, mass expulsions and deportations, population transfer, "ethnic cleansing" and other forms of forcible displacement of populations within a country or across borders deprive the affected populations of their right to freedom of movement,

Noting that policies of forcible displacement are one of the major causes of flows of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Concerned that more than 20 million refugees and even larger and growing numbers of internally displaced persons exist worldwide,

1. Affirms the right of persons to remain in peace in their own homes, on their own lands and in their own countries;

2. Also affirms the right of refugees and displaced persons to return, in safety and dignity, to their country of origin and/or within it, to their place of origin or choice;

3. Urges Governments and other actors involved to do everything possible in order to cease at once all practices of forced displacement, population transfer and ethnic cleansing in violation of international legal standards;

4. Decides to include under the agenda item entitled "Freedom of movement" a sub-item relating to questions of displacement entitled "Population displacement" and to keep under constant review respect for the right to freedom of movement, including the right to remain and to return.